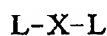


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II. LISTING OF CLAIMS

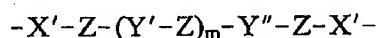
1-63. (Canceled)

64. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing a library of compounds of the formula:



wherein

each L is independently a ligand which binds to a cell membrane transporter; and
 X is a linker of the formula:



wherein

m is an integer of from 0 to 20;

X' at each separate occurrence is selected from the group consisting of -O-, -S-, -NH-, -C(O)-, -C(O)O-, -C(O)NH- and a covalent bond;

Z at each separate occurrence is selected from the group consisting of alkylene, cycloalkylene, alkenylene, alkynylene, arylene, heteroarylene, heterocyclene and a covalent bond;

Y' and Y'' at each separate occurrence are selected from the group consisting of -C(O)NR'-, -NR'C(O)-, -NR'C(O)NR'-, -C(=NR')-NR'-, -NR'-C(=NR')-, -NR'-C(O)-O-, -P(O)(OR')-O-, -S(O) $_n$ CR'R"-, -S(O) $_n$ -NR'-, -S-S- and a covalent bond; where n is 0, 1 or 2; and

R' and R'' at each separate occurrence are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, alkynyl, substituted alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl and heterocyclic;

the method comprising the steps of:

(a) ~~identifying~~ selecting a ligand ~~compound~~ which binds to a the cell membrane transporter;

(b) providing a plurality of functionalized ligand ~~compounds~~ ligands, each functionalized ligand ~~compound~~ comprising the ligand ~~compound~~ from step (a) having a reactive functional group

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selected from the group consisting of an $-NH_2$, $-COOH$, $-C(O)Y$, $-CHO$, $-OH$, $-SH$, $-N=C=O$ and $-Y$ group, where Y is halo; wherein the reactive functional group of each functionalized ligand compound is located at a different position relative to the other functionalized ligand compounds ligands;

(c) providing a the linker compound comprising having two reactive functional groups independently selected from the group consisting of an $-NH_2$, $-COOH$, $-C(O)Y$, $-CHO$, $-OH$, $-SH$, $-N=C=O$ and $-Y$ group, where Y is halo; wherein each of the reactive function groups of the linker compound has complementary reactivity to the reactive functional group of a the functionalized ligand compound from step (b);

(d) reacting the linker compound from step (c) with each of the functionalized ligand compounds from step (b) to provide a the library of compounds of the formula $L-X-L$.

65. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 64, wherein the method further comprises the step of:

(e) assaying each compound of the library from step (d) to determine its the binding affinity of the compound for the cell membrane transporter.

66. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 64, wherein the linker compound has a chain length between reactive functional groups of from about 2 Å to 100 Å.

67. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 64, wherein the cell membrane transporter is an ion channel.

68. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 67, wherein the cell membrane transporter is a sodium ion channel.

69. (New) The method of Claim 64, wherein Z is alkylene.

70. (New) The method of Claim 64, wherein Z is alkylene; Y' and Y'' are covalent bonds; and m is 0 or 1.